

While general manager of the Flint MTA, Bob created a state-of-the-art transportation system and infrastructure. His focus on low-income and seniors has created more opportunities for the clients and jobs throughout the community. The Your Ride program that he designed and implemented serves almost 50,000 passengers a month with an emphasis on seniors and the disabled.

Bob has been called a visionary by many who know him and I echo this sentiment. His work to modernize the transportation system will have a lasting impact on the community. He created unique partnerships with Kettering University and Michigan State University that paved the way for a MTA Alternative Fuel Facility. This cutting edge Compress Natural Gas/Propane fueling station will serve as ground zero for research that could lead to increased efficiency and cost savings that will save taxpayers money across the state.

Mr. Speaker, I can honestly say that everything Bob touched became better because he was involved. He brought decency to whatever he did personally and professionally. Please join me in congratulating Robert Foy on his tremendous career and wish him well in retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CROATIAN FRATERNAL UNION OF AMERICA, LODGE # 859, ZUMBERAK

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 6, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 75th anniversary of Zumberak Lodge, of the Croatian Fraternal Union of America.

The Croatian Fraternal Union of America (CFU) is the largest and oldest Croatian organization in North America. There are more than 200 lodges throughout the United States and Canada and 18 in the State of Ohio. The CFU was founded on September 2, 1894 as the Croatian Union of the United States, and in 1895 was renamed the National Croatian Society. The National Croatian Society merged with several other Croatian organizations and became the Croatian Fraternal Union of America in 1925. Originally, CFU was created as a society of mutual aid for Croats in the event of sickness and death. It has also been publishing its own newspaper, *The Zajednicar*, since 1904. Today, in addition to providing insurance, the CFU is dedicated to preserving Croatian culture in North America, and provides numerous fraternal and cultural programs for its members.

In addition to celebrating the 75th anniversary of Zumberak Lodge, members who have been with the Croatian Fraternal Union for 50 years will also be honored at the celebration. The 50 year members include: Gerald Babbitts, Dwayne Hunn, Robert Knezevic, Ann Lang, Mary Ann Mave, Linda Mayo, William Rubick and Barbara Zander. The celebration will begin with a service at St. Nicholas Croatian Byzantine Catholic Church and be followed by a memorial service for deceased members, a blessing for the 50 year members and conclude with a champagne brunch at Manor Party Center in Euclid, Ohio.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the 75th anniversary of Zumberak Lodge and those who are celebrating 50 years of membership with the Croatian Fraternal Union of America, Zumberak Lodge #859.

CELEBRATING DAVID ISIAH STROMAN ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 6, 2011*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating David Isiah Stroman, Jr. on his 100th birthday today.

Born in South Carolina, Dave, as he is affectionately known, has spent most of his life as a resident of the District of Columbia. After graduating from Booker T. Washington High School and attending Benedict College in South Carolina, Dave moved to the nation's capital.

Dave was a natural athlete, so it came as no surprise that he fell in love with golf when he began working as a caddy at Indian Springs Country Club in Silver Spring, MD, earning \$0.50 a round. During those days, the old West Potomac Park on Constitution Avenue was the only golf course in DC that African Americans were allowed to use, and Monday was the only day they were allowed to play on it. However, the Langston Golf Course opened in 1939, giving Dave and his friends a primary golf course to call their own. Over the years, Dave met famous golfers like Lee Elder, Calvin Peete and Charlie Sifford. In the late 1940s, Dave met and became golf partners with boxing great Joe Louis, and they shared many happy times competing against each other.

Dave's successes did not stop at golf. He began his federal government career in 1935 at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, which had just begun to hire African Americans. He worked there until his retirement in 1969. Dave was married to his first wife, Mildred, during his early years at the Bureau, until her death in 1939. Dave married his second wife, Pamela Wilhoite, in 1949. Dave and Pam have two daughters, Tayloria and India, one grandson, Azani, two sons-in-law, Purnell and Daryl, a step granddaughter, Ashley, and a step great grandson, Zion.

During Dave's time at the Bureau, he cultivated many relationships with his co-workers. Together, they formed social clubs like "The SWAGS," whose clubhouse dances and boat rides were the place to be in the 1950s. As a member of a club of retired golfers, the Monday Morning Golf Club, Dave played golf at different courses every Monday. Dave and his co-workers met the actor Bill Murray at the Bureau, who encouraged all of them to become members of the Masonic Temple. Dave later signed his petition as a Master Mason. He is a member of Mecca #10 Shrine Temple, Mt. Vernon Chapter #1, Holy Royal Arch Masons, Redemption Lodge #24, and Simon Commandery. Today, Dave continues to enjoy life by being in the company of family and friends, going to golf courses, and cheering on the Washington Redskins.

In celebrating this significant milestone, we acknowledge the extraordinary personal quali-

ties and contributions of David Isiah Stroman, Jr. to his family and to our community. His birthday gives his family and friends, and the residents of the District of Columbia, an opportunity to thank him for his many gifts of love and friendship. I ask the House to join me in celebrating the 100th birthday of David Isiah Stroman, Jr., a special man whose service to our community is greatly appreciated.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF ALVIN "AL" COBY

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 6, 2011*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Alvin "Al" Coby after 27 years of service to the City of Pensacola, Florida.

Mr. Coby's service to our nation began in 1971 when he joined the few and the proud to become a United States Marine. Upon completion of the Officer Basic Course in Quantico, Virginia, he reported to Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida, where he began his flight training. Upon earning his wings, he was selected to fly the F-4 "Phantom". Mr. Coby served three tours as a Marine aviator in Vietnam, before returning to the "Cradle of Aviation" in 1978 to serve as a flight instructor. Under his leadership and expertise, many brave men and women were trained as pilots who went on to serve during the Cold War and in Iraq, Bosnia, Afghanistan, and across the globe.

After eleven years of military service, Al Coby departed active duty. He then attended graduate school at the University of West Florida and joined the City of Pensacola in 1984 as Assistant City Manager. Mr. Coby has served the City of Pensacola in various capacities, including Community Redevelopment Director, Assistant City Manager and City Manager. During his tenure with the City, he also served as a member of two state appointed boards, as well as numerous local boards and committees. Currently, he is a member of the Sacred Heart Hospital Advisory Board, the Downtown Rotary, and the Boy Scouts of America Gulf Coast Council.

In 2004, Hurricane Ivan devastated the panhandle of Florida, and Mr. Coby became an integral part of the recovery process. His tireless dedication to rebuilding homes and businesses in Pensacola is a true testament to his character. In 2010, with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill affecting residents and businesses in the Gulf Coast region, Mr. Coby organized a team of City employees to focus on recovery and long-term development. He led the recovery team with distinction, and his hard work and dedication helped to ensure that the City of Pensacola was prepared to respond quickly and effectively to this unprecedented disaster.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I congratulate Mr. Coby on his retirement and thank him for his faithful and selfless service to this great Nation and to the Northwest Florida community. My wife Vicki and I wish him and his family all the best.